

California Weather-Hydro Conditions during December 2016

As of December 31, 2016, statewide hydrologic conditions were as follows: precipitation, 140 percent of average to date, snow sensor water content, 65 percent of average to date (25% of the April 1 index average), runoff, 175 percent of average to date, and reservoir storage, 100 percent of average to date.

Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff, for Water Year 2017, observed through December 31, 2016 was about 5.2 million acre-feet (MAF), which is about 173 percent of average. In comparison to Water Year 2016, the observed Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff through December 31, 2015 was about 1.7 MAF, or about 55 percent of average. San Joaquin River Region unimpaired runoff, for Water Year 2017, observed through December 31, 2016 was about 1.2 MAF, which is about 224 percent of average. In comparison to Water Year 2016, the observed San Joaquin River Region unimpaired runoff through December 31, 2015 was about 0.4 MAF, or about 73 percent of average. Tulare Lake Region unimpaired runoff, for Water Year 2017, observed through December 31, 2016 was about 0.2 MAF, which is about 75 percent of average. In comparison to Water Year 2016, the observed Tulare Lake Region unimpaired runoff through December 31, 2015 was about 0.1 MAF, or about 49 percent of average.

On December 31, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 26.6 inches, which is about 167 percent of the seasonal average to date and 59 percent of an average water year (50.0 inches). During December, the total precipitation for the 8-Stations was 11.6 inches, or about 138 percent of average for the month. Last year on December 31, the Water Year 2016 seasonal total for the 8-Stations was 16.7 inches, or about 94 percent of average.

On December 31, the San Joaquin 5-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 17.7 inches, which is about 136 percent of the seasonal average to date and 43 percent of an average water year (40.8 inches). During December, the total precipitation for the 5-Stations was 8.5 inches, or about 137 percent of average for the month. Last year on December 31, the Water Year 2016 seasonal total for the 5-Stations was 15.7 inches, or about 121 percent of average.

On December 31, the Tulare Basin 6-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 10.9 inches, which is about 125 percent of the seasonal average to date and 37 percent of an average water year (29.3 inches). During December, the total precipitation for the 6-Stations was also 7.4 inches, or about 168 percent of average for the month. Last year on December 31, the Water Year 2016 seasonal total for the 6-Stations was 9.8 inches, or about 113 percent of average.

Daily Precipitation (in inches) for Selected Stations as of 12/31/2016					
Station	Oct 1 to Date 2016 - 2016	% Average	Season to Date 2015 - 2016	% Average	% Average Oct 1 - Sep 30
Mount Shasta	20.37	137	8.96	60	47
Eureka	20.93	133	20.08	128	52
Redding	17.60	139	9.83	78	51
South Lake Tahoe	13.35	170	8.12	103	66
Sacramento Executive Airport	9.46	153	3.44	56	51
Santa Rosa (Sonoma Co AP)	16.20	120	7.31	54	45
San Francisco	8.96	103	6.61	76	38
Stockton	5.95	128	4.59	99	42
Yosemite	18.06	146	13.40	108	48
Monterey	5.84	115	7.62	151	36
Paso Robles	3.61	101	1.99	56	28
Fresno	4.47	131	5.19	153	39
Bakersfield	2.47	129	1.33	69	38
Death Valley	0.22	41	1.08	200	9
Los Angeles	5.46	139	1.02	26	37
Riverside	4.27	156	1.12	41	34
Palm Springs	1.58	88	0.17	9	28
San Diego	3.95	130	2.85	93	38

Key Reservoir Storage (1,000 AF) as of 12/31/2016								
Reservoir	River	Storage	Avg Storage	% Average	Capacity	% Capacity	Flood Control Encroachment	Total Space Available
Trinity Lake	Trinity	1,261	1,642	77	2,448	52	---	1,187
Shasta Lake	Sacramento	3,342	2,828	118	4,552	73	3	1,210
Lake Oroville	Feather	1,982	2,174	91	3,538	56	-910	1,556
New Bullards Bar Res	Yuba	775	546	142	966	80	-21	191
Folsom Lake	American	400	476	84	977	41	-177	577
New Melones Res	Stanislaus	628	1,382	45	2,400	26	-1,342	1,792
Don Pedro Res	Tuolumne	1,515	1,339	113	2,030	75	-175	515
Lake McClure	Merced	451	452	100	1,025	44	-223	574
Millerton Lake	San Joaquin	367	271	135	520	71	-54	153

Pine Flat Res	Kings	276	408	68	1,000	28	-373	724
Isabella	Kern	94	159	59	568	17	-76	474
San Luis Res	(Offstream)	1,249	1,388	90	2,041	61	---	790

The latest National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center (CPC) long-range, 1-month precipitation outlook for January 2017, issued December 31, 2016, suggested average precipitation for all of California, except for the eastern Sierra portion of the State where above average precipitation was expected.